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rule he prefers to do his thieving in the daytime rather than at night. At the first sign of danger he runs for cover.

"Although he is a coward at heart, he is dangerous like a rat when cornered, and will fight back. If he believes his life is at stake or he is in danger of arrest, he sometimes will not hesitate to shoot to kill."—*N. Y. Times*, October 2, 1922.

Reduction in Major Crimes in Chicago.—"In the downward trend in burglary and robbery in Chicago for the three months ending September 1, 1922, the Chicago Crime Commission finds reason to compliment Superintendent of Police Charles C. Fitzmorris and members of the Department of Police and State's Attorney Robert E. Crowe, and his assistants.

"During the period in which 1,476 robberies were reported this year, 700 defendants were arraigned in the Criminal Court. These were involved in 1,225 charges of robbery. Convictions were obtained in cases against 370 individuals of whom 322 were penalized and forty-eight placed on probation.

"During the period in which 2,956 burglaries were committed, 652 defendants involved in 1,001 charges of burglary were tried. Convictions were obtained against 399 defendants, 281 being penalized and 118 placed on probation.

"Robbery has decreased forty-eight per cent in the past three months as compared with the preceding three months of this year, and has decreased forty per cent as compared with the corresponding three months of last year.

"Burglary has decreased thirty-one per cent in the past three months as compared with the preceding three months of this year, and has decreased sixteen per cent as compared to the corresponding three months of last year.

"In the first eight months of 1921 there were 3,129 burglary complaints to the Police Department; in the first eight months of 1922 there were 2,956 burglary complaints.

"In the first eight months of last year there were 1,735 robbery complaints as compared with 1,466 complaints to September 1 this year.

"Records compiled by the Commission show that almost half of all the defendants arraigned in the Criminal Court on robbery and burglary charges are convicted and punished. This is proportionately twice as many as were penalized last year.

"These figures indicate a satisfactory co-operation between the State's Attorney's office and the Department of Police. The marked improvement in the reduction of robberies and the increased number of penalties reflects credit on both.

"Spectacular daylight holdups in which large sums of money are taken have been rare so far this year and the loss of life and property in both robberies and burglaries also has been very noticeably less than in the same period last year.

"In the first eight months of 1922 there were 147 murders as compared with 118 during the same period of last year. Six of these represent the killing of police officers martyred in the performance of their duties. In addition there were a number of special deputies and other peace officers killed in combats with criminals. The proportion of citizens killed in the course of holdups and robberies during the past eight months has been less than in any previous similar period. These figures, like all previous murder figures compiled by the Chicago Crime Commission, are for Cook County and

are taken from the Coroner's records. Until recently there were few murders in Cook County outside of Chicago, but during the past few months there have been several killings in roadhouses and on the public highways outside the city limits. This should be considered in applying the present murder rate as a test of police efficiency in Chicago. Although the figures so far this year are higher than for last year, on the whole they are creditable to the Chicago Police Department.

"The record of stolen motor cars recovered for the first eight months of the year also reflects credit not only upon Captain John Naughton and the Motor Division, but also upon Chief Michael Hughes and the Detective Bureau. Not only do the reports of the Police Department show a reduction in the number of motor cars stolen but they also show a very remarkable record of the recovery within the city limits of Chicago of cars stolen outside. In the twelve months of last year the department reported 5,960 cars stolen within the city police jurisdiction and 839 in the territory within the city limits, but policed by the five park districts, a total of 6,799. Of these 4,501 were recovered.

"In the eight months ending September 1, 1922, 2,793 motor cars were stolen within the city limits of Chicago, 180 of which were stolen in territory policed by the five park systems. During the same period 2,213 cars stolen in this same territory were recovered, leaving but 580 out of the 2,793 to be accounted for. In addition to the recovery of 2,213 cars stolen in Chicago, the department recovered 177 from outside and 207 regarding which no complaint of loss had been made, a grand total of 2,597 cars recovered during the period that 2,793 cars were stolen.

"There is no doubt but that the frequent and unexpected appearance of the automobile squads from the Detective Bureau at various points throughout the city during both day and night have acted as a most effective deterrent of crime and has increased the hazards involved in the theft of motor cars. The motorcycle section stationed at vantage points in the outlying sections and working in close co-operation with the Motor Division has also acted as a very great deterrent because of the large percentage of recoveries and the present very satisfactory proportion of the arrest of auto thieves. The department is making the theft of an automobile more difficult, the capture of the thief more likely and the attitude of the State's Attorney's office, the judges of the Criminal Court and the citizens serving as jurors, has done much toward improving a situation which in the past has been one of great concern, because of the extent to which motor cars have figured in the loss of life and property in the holdup and robbery of citizens who were slain by automobile bandits upon the slightest show of resistance. A tabulation by months is as follows:

Stolen	City	Parks
Month		
January	371	31
February	337	33
March	335	15
April	310	28
May	320	16
June	291	17
July	314	27
August	325	23

Month	Recovered	
	City	Parks
January	337	32
February	323	19
March	246	18
April	236	24
May	247	18
June	205	16
July	216	15
August	241	20
Month	Out of Town	
	Not Claimed	
January	29	..
February	9	2
March	19	32
April	17	39
May	15	25
June	29	36
July	36	30
August	23	43

"Due to the activity of the Chicago Crime Commission, the City Council on May 24, 1922, authorized the addition of one thousand more patrolmen to the Police Department. Between June 7 and June 13, 759 probational patrolmen were sworn in, and since then twenty-four others have been employed. Superintendent Fitzmorris has not only used extreme care in the investigation of these men but has subjected them to rigorous discipline in a brief but intensive course of qualifying training. One hundred and seven of the new patrolmen have been suspended and sixteen have resigned as a result of this investigation and training. Thirteen of those suspended have been reinstated giving the department on September 1, 1922, 673 recruits of very superior qualifications.

"With these additional patrolmen available, a more effective patrol system at night is being established in the belief that it is better to prevent burglars from entering a place than it is to capture and convict them afterwards.

"The effect of this addition of man power available for patrol duty in the department is just beginning to be felt. Every member of the department is entitled to fifteen days' furlough every year and this during the summer months results in a considerable reduction in the number of men on active duty. The number of recruits added to the department previous to the period beginning September 1, therefore, did not nearly make up for the withdrawals due to these leaves of absence. Precinct commanders now have more men available for patrol duty than ever before in the history of the department, and have no valid excuse for failure to cut down preventable crime and to maintain order.

"Methods employed in training the new men are excellent. They are thoroughly schooled in the laws, ordinances, and the rules of the department with which a police officer is expected to be familiar. They are put through systematic physical exercises, including expert training in the use

and care of firearms and first aid to the injured. Many of them are ex-service men who have had the benefit of military experience. For the most part they are accustomed to discipline. Young, virile, alert and active—a superior type of man, mentally and physically—they are a formidable acquisition to the department.

"Their induction into the department at a time when its morale is at a higher peak than ever before in its history, is also greatly to their advantage. Public evidence of the fine spirit of co-operation and interest in the department was given during the field day recently held in Grant Park in which 1,125 members of the department participated. The drill by the Provisional Exhibition Drill Company of the department, commanded by Major John Bauder, was performed with a precision and snap worthy of West Point's finest battalion. It was the first time that the general public had opportunity to view so large a number of the department in so varied a program of physical activity, in which muscle and brawn were directed by healthy minds capable of fast thinking and quick judgments.

"That Superintendent Fitzmorris could organize and produce such a spectacle in less than ninety days' preparation—the same ninety days in which the department had reduced robbery forty-eight per cent and burglary thirty-one per cent—would seem to indicate that he has instilled into its membership a most commendable spirit of confidence and co-operation which will go a long way toward ultimately making it the sort of police department which Chicago believes he is trying to organize and for the support of which its citizens are taxed."—From Bulletin No. 26 of the Chicago Crime Commission, Oct. 25, 1922.

Our Lunacy Laws.—Probably the case of Mr. John Armstrong Chaloner has brought before the public our lunacy law in a way it would not have been brought except for the proceedings taken by him and the book written by him. We suppose very few people in Virginia have thought about the nature of our laws upon this subject. They have worked very well, it seems to us, and we are not personally aware of any person who has been injured in liberty or property by any proceeding taken under our laws. We think this a high tribute to our Virginia people, but the article by Mr. Charles E. Kemper in this number of the Register has caused us to think somewhat of the dangers that may lurk in our present lunacy laws. Mr. Kemper is mistaken in supposing that a person charged with lunacy has no chance for a jury trial. He undoubtedly has such a chance, but he can only reach a jury trial by the tedious process of a habeas corpus and very few people brought before a commission know anything about this and are seldom represented by counsel. Ought we not to have some way by which when a person is charged with lunacy a guardian *ad litem* could be appointed who would be a skilled lawyer, who should be present at the trial and be enabled to take an appeal to the circuit or corporation court and demand a jury trial? In the meantime, of course, the lunatic, if the commission deemed it wise, might be placed in the custody of friends or committed to the hospital in accordance with the present law. We think